South Carolina State Climate Office

South Carolina's Tornado Climatology 1950-2014

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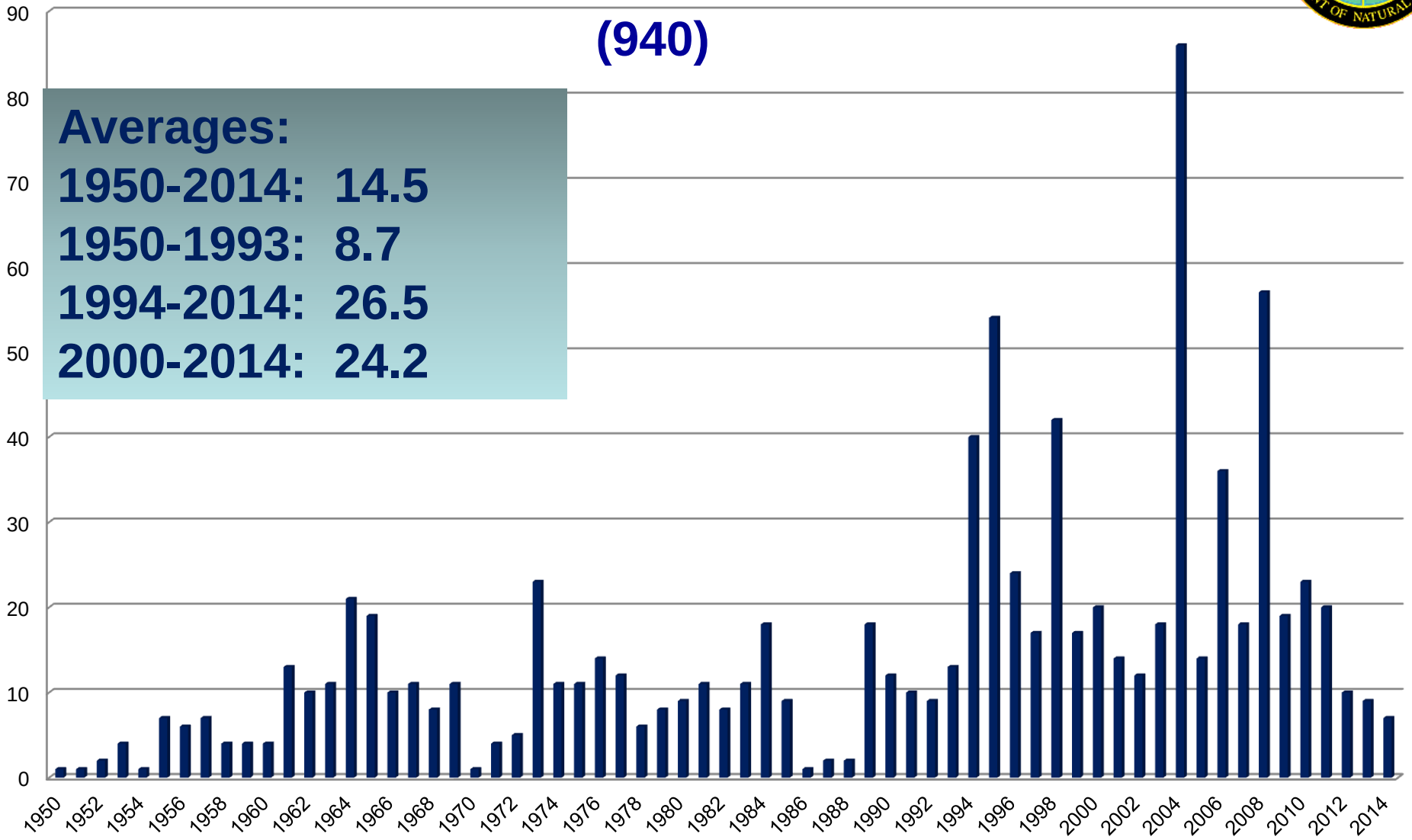
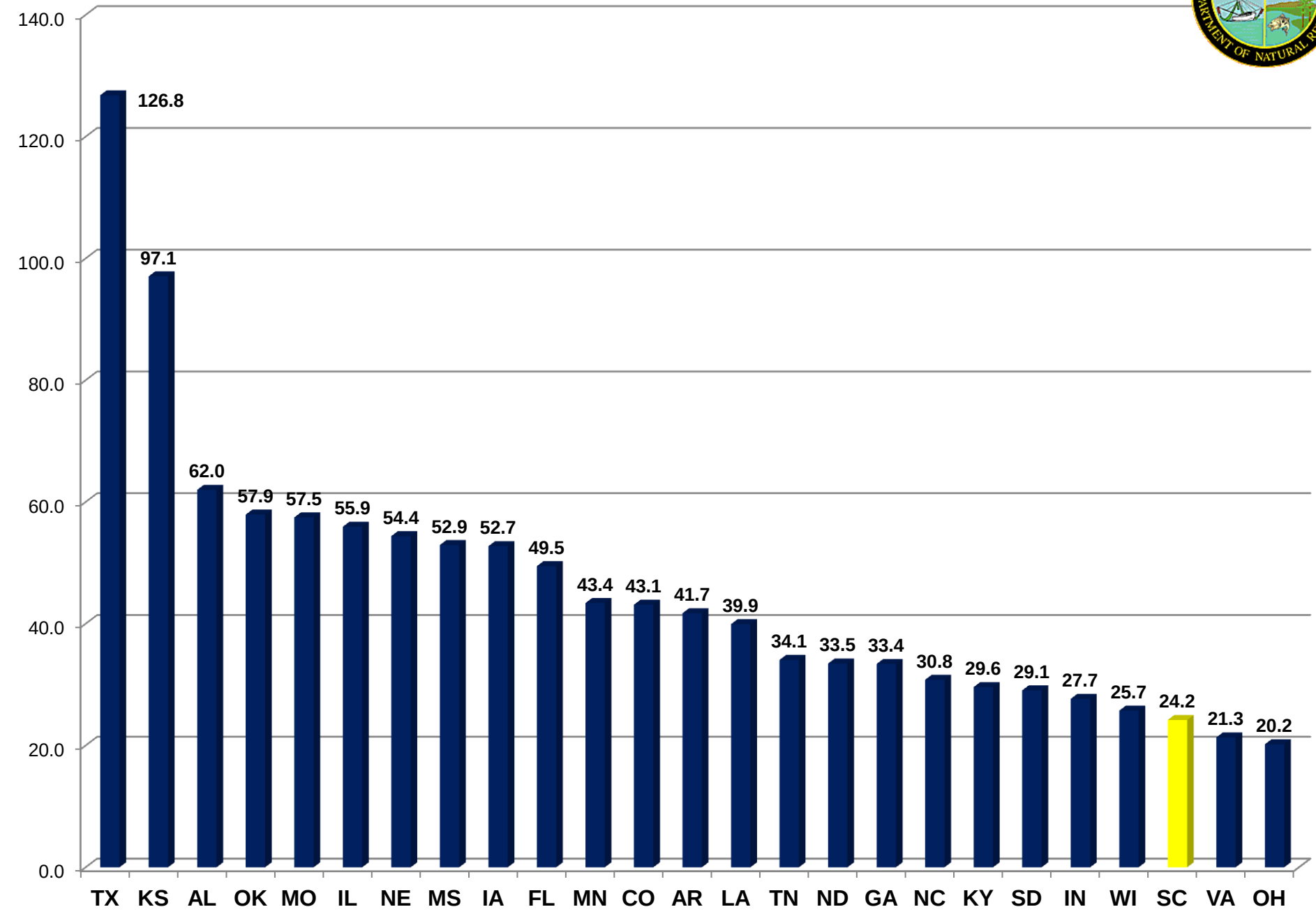
Data source: NOAA's Storm Prediction Center (www.spc.noaa.gov/wcm)

SOUTH CAROLINA TORNADOES 1950-2014 (940)

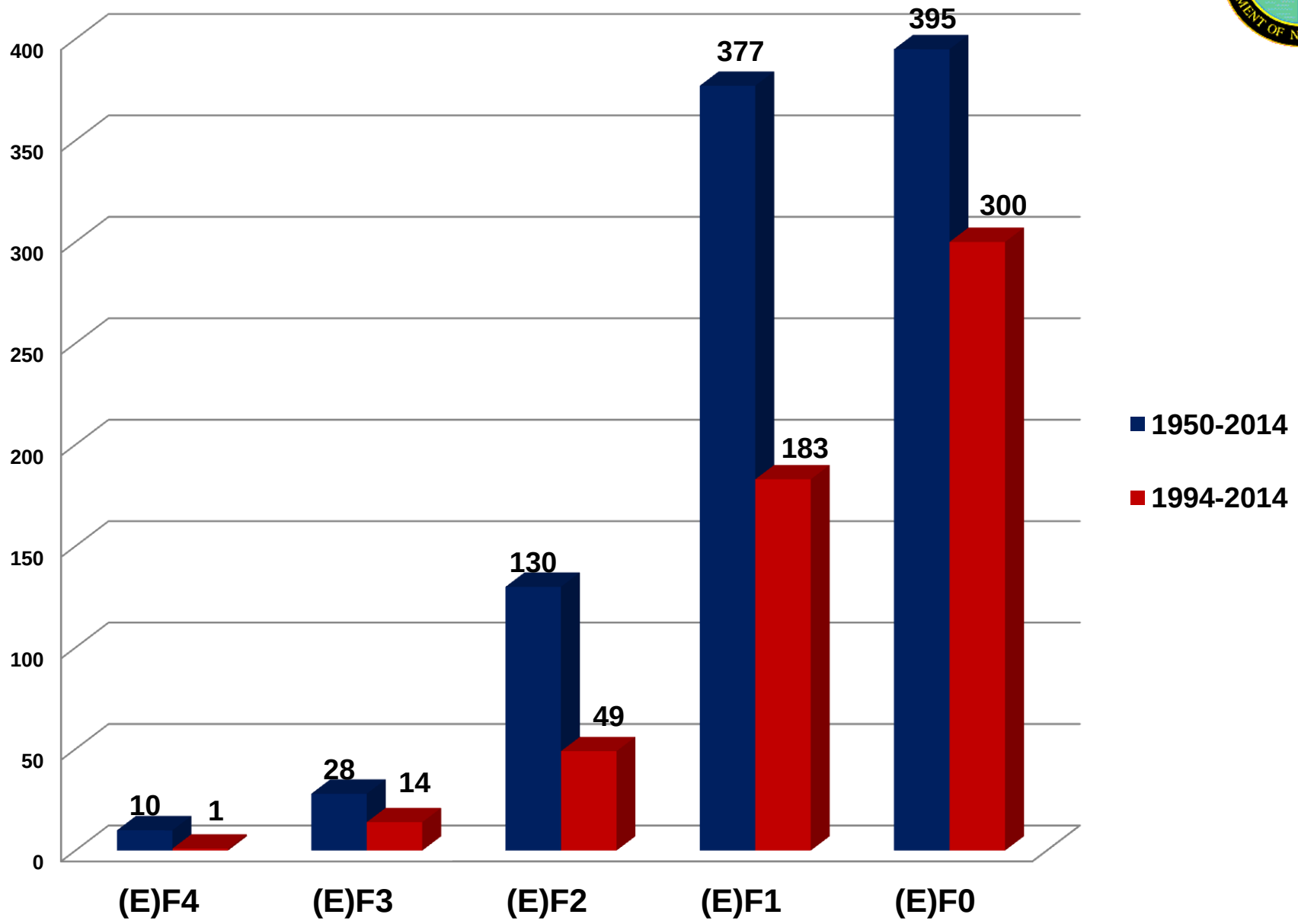
Averages:
1950-2014: 14.5
1950-1993: 8.7
1994-2014: 26.5
2000-2014: 24.2



TOP 25 TORNADO STATES 2000-2014



SOUTH CAROLINA TORNADO INTENSITY1950-2014



EF-2, 3 4 TORNADOES 1950-2014

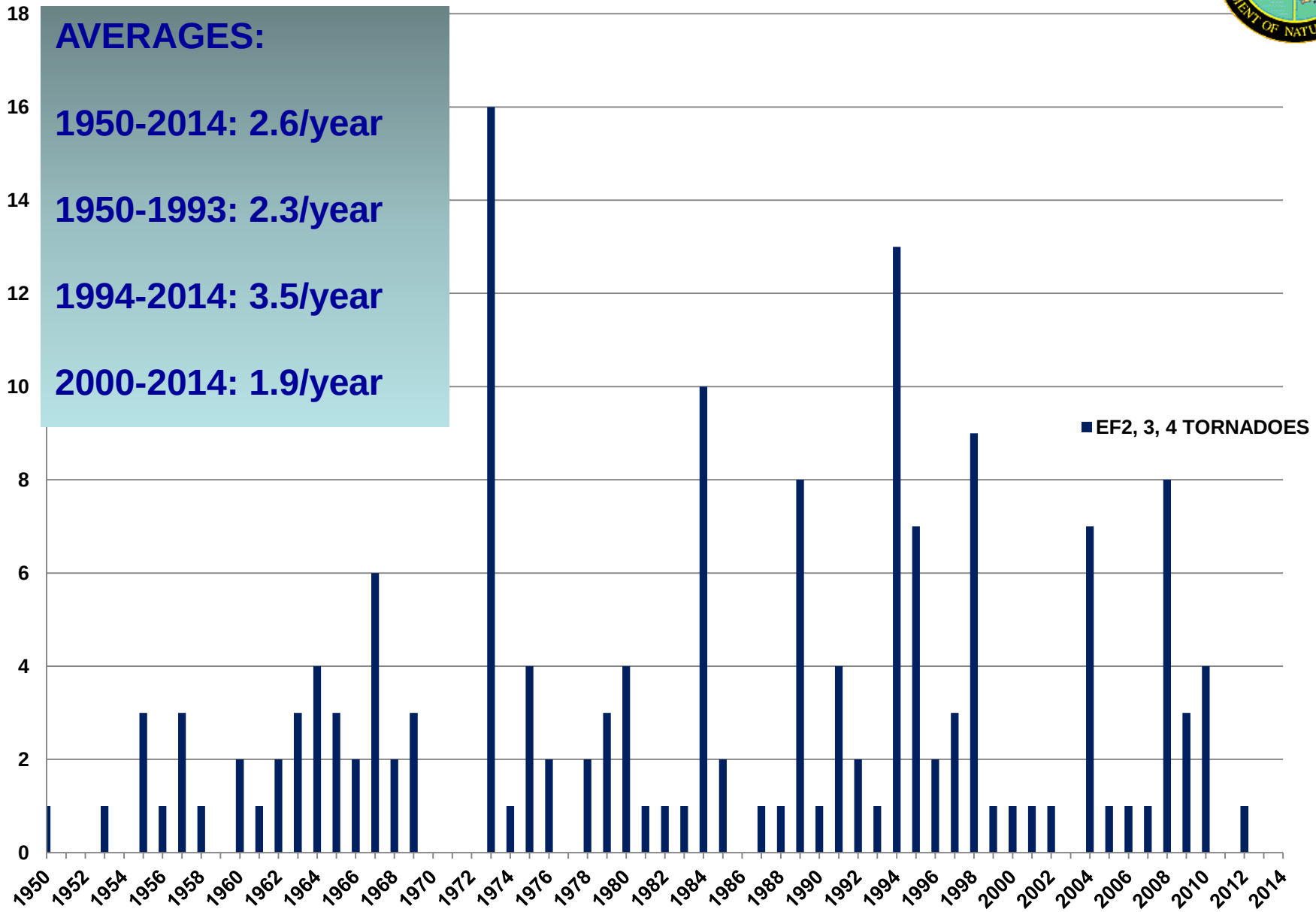
AVERAGES:

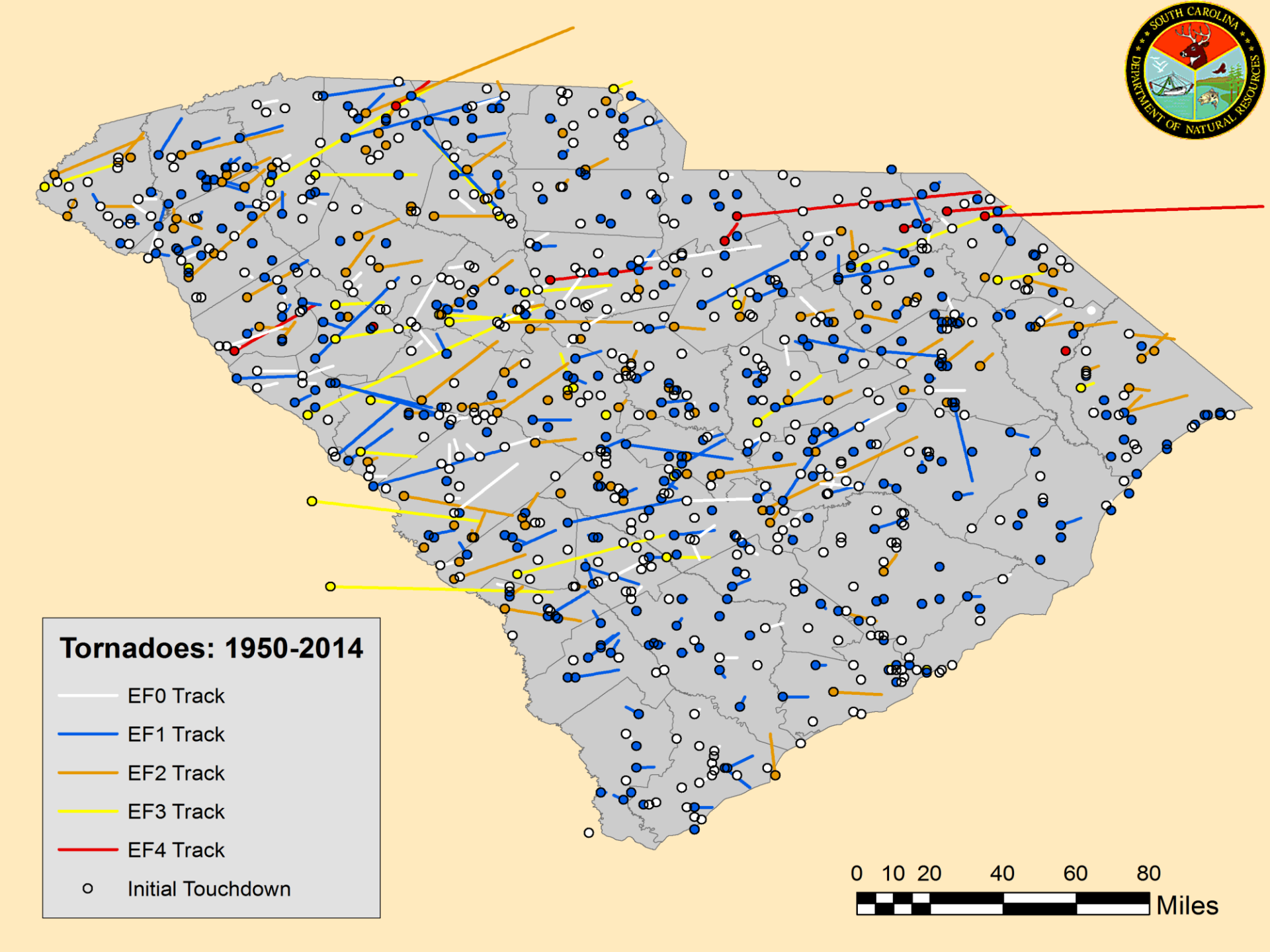
1950-2014: 2.6/year

1950-1993: 2.3/year

1994-2014: 3.5/year

2000-2014: 1.9/year




Tornadoes: 1950-2014
EF0 Track
EF1 Track
EF2 Track
EF3 Track
EF4 Track
Initial Touchdown
0 10 20 40 60 80
Miles
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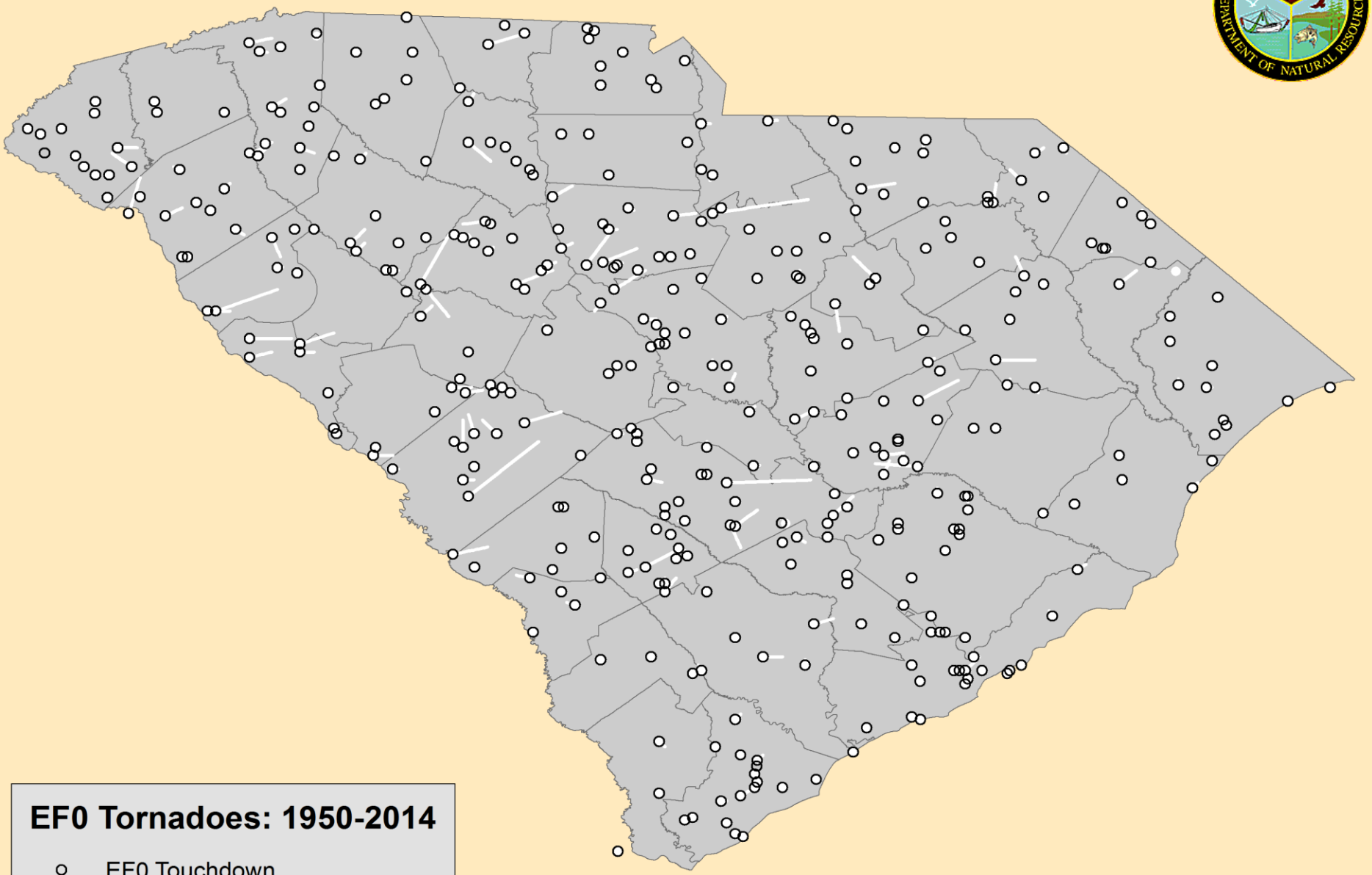
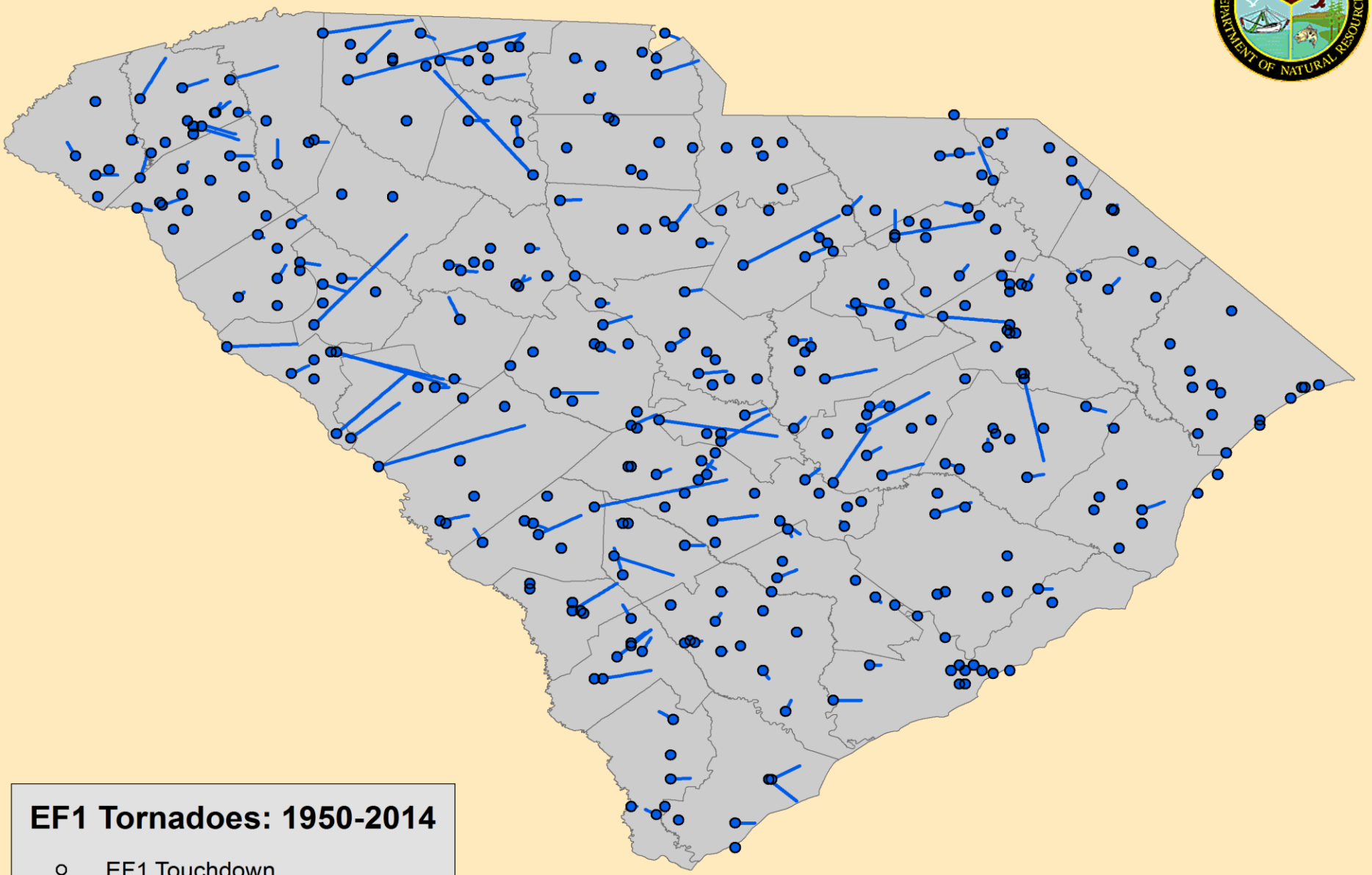
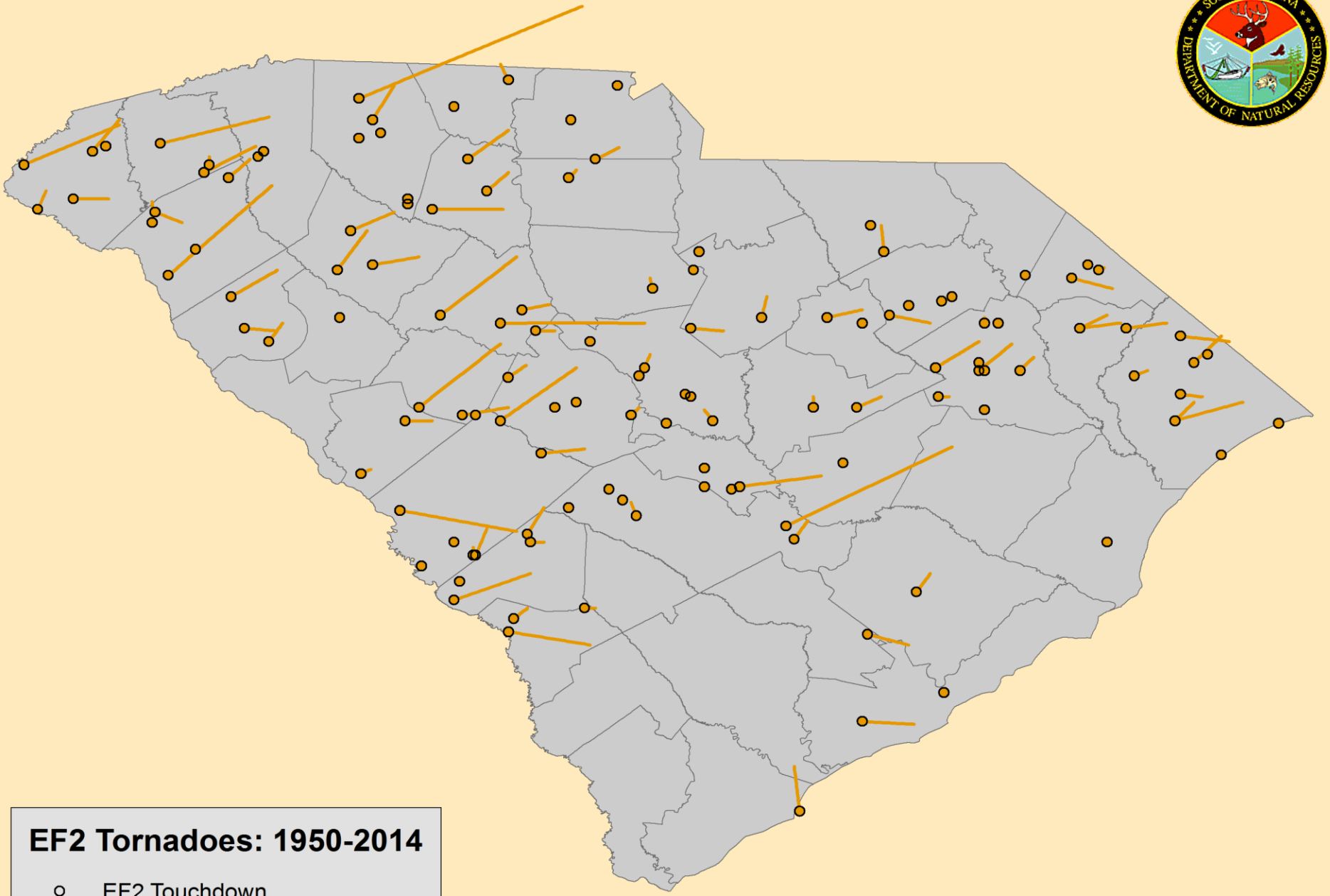

EF0 Tornadoes: 1950-2014
EF0 Touchdown
EF0 Track
0 10 20 40 60 80
Miles


EF1 Tornadoes: 1950-2014
EF1 Touchdown
EF1 Track
0 10 20 40 60 80
Miles
SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES


SOUTH CAROLINA
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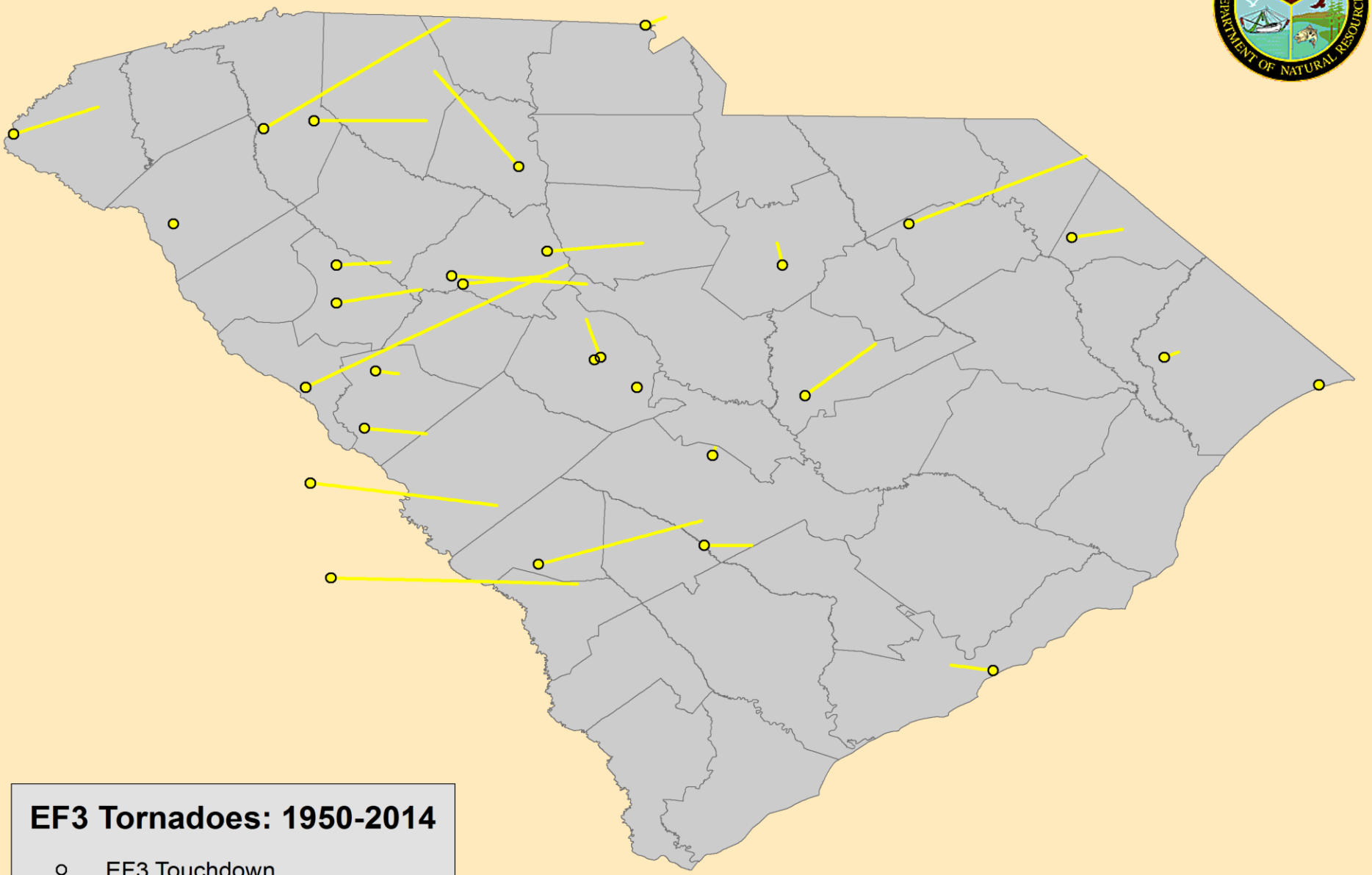
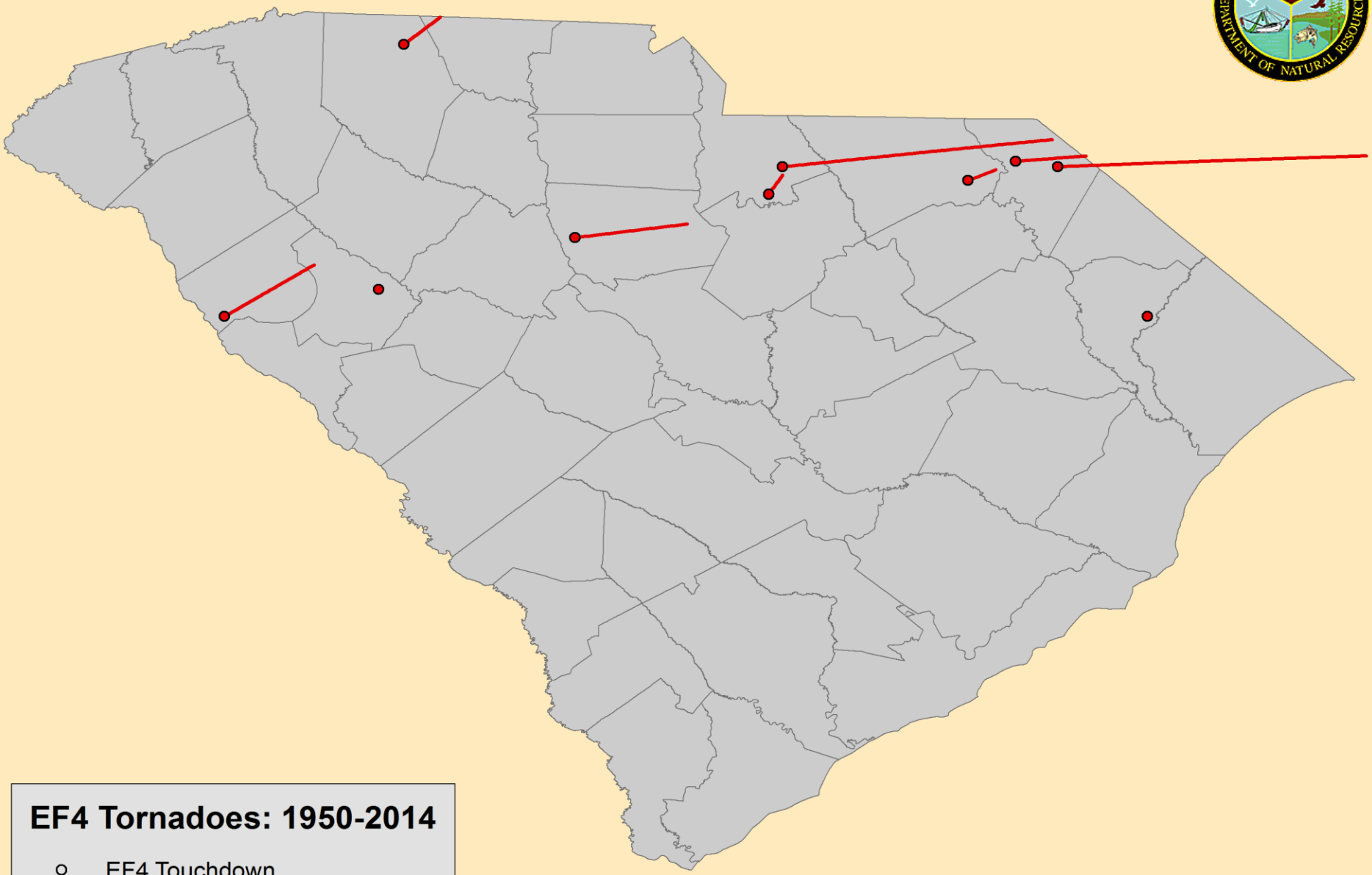
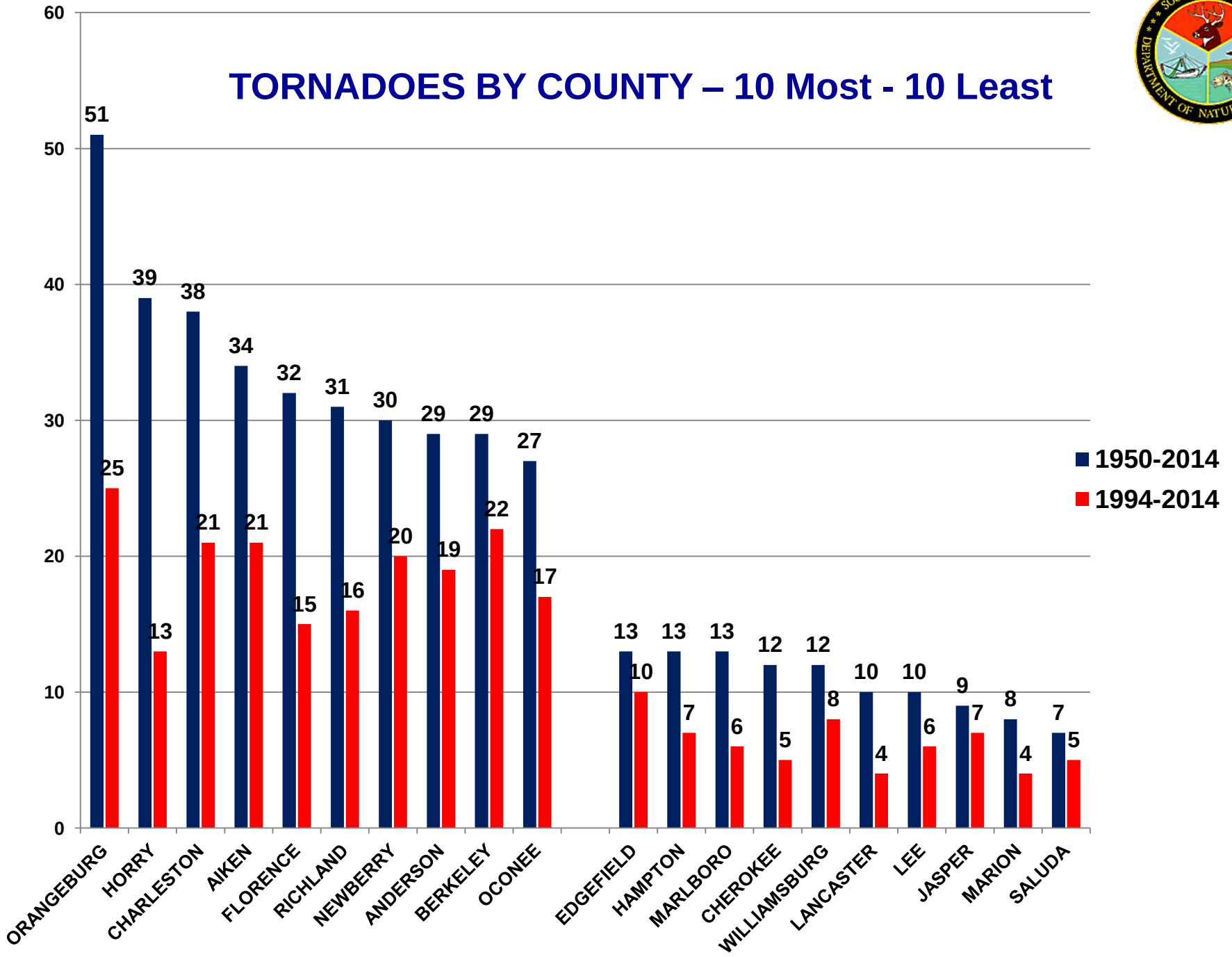
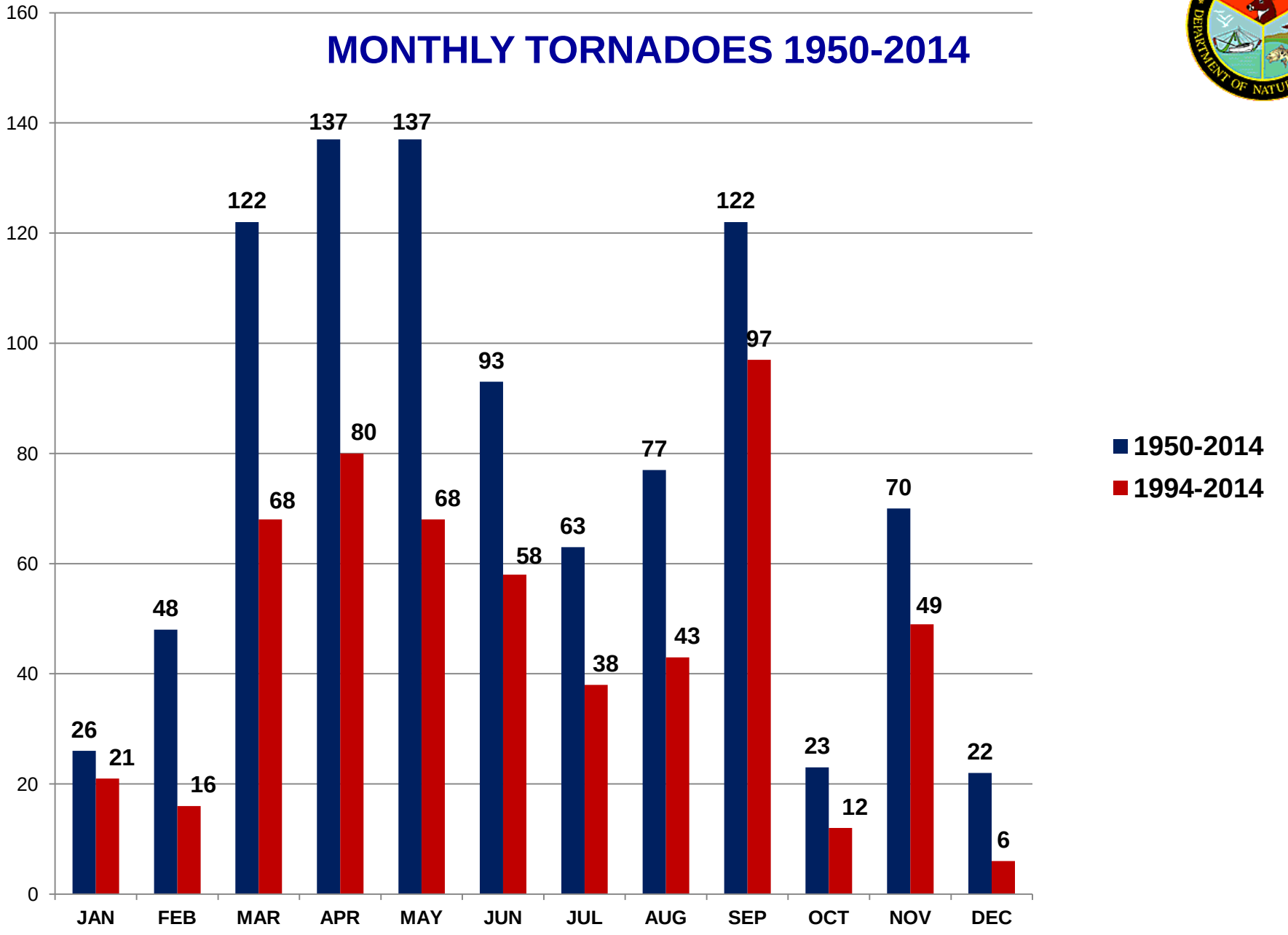
EF2 Tornadoes: 1950-2014
EF2 Touchdown
EF2 Track
0 10 20 40 60 80
Miles

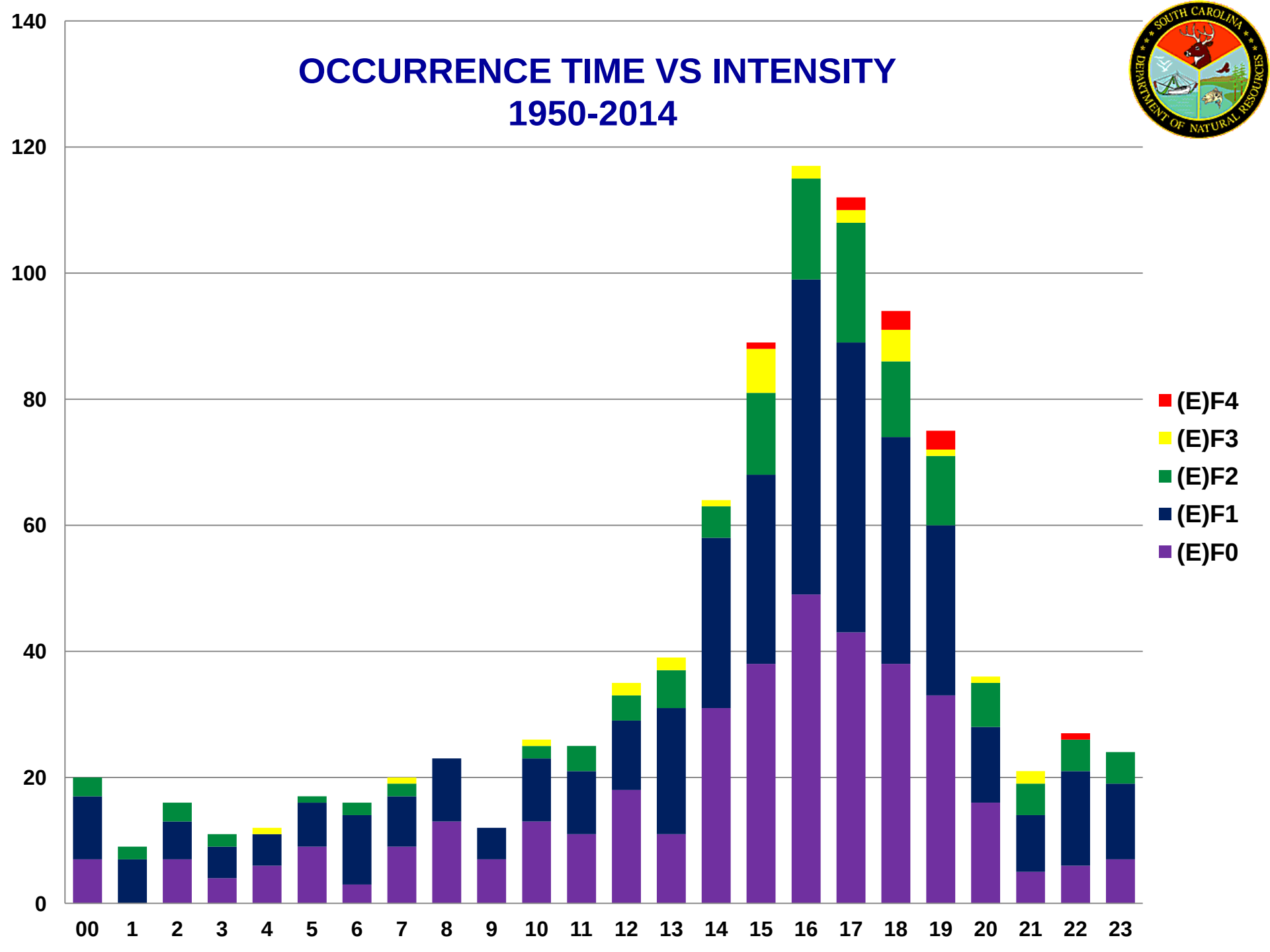

EF3 Tornadoes: 1950-2014
EF3 Touchdown
EF3 Track
0 10 20 40 60 80
Miles


EF4 Tornadoes: 1950-2014
EF4 Touchdown
EF4 Track
0 10 20 40 60 80
Miles

TORNADOES BY COUNTY – 10 Most - 10 Least




MONTHLY TORNADOES 1950-2014
160
140
120
100
80
60
40
20
0
JAN
FEB
MAR
APR
MAY
JUN
JUL
AUG
SEP
OCT
NOV
DEC
26
21
48
16
122
68
137
80
137
68
93
58
63
38
77
43
122
97
23
12
70
49
22
6
1950-2014
1994-2014


OCCURRENCE TIME VS INTENSITY
1950-2014
140
120
100
80
60
40
20
0
00
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
(E)F4
(E)F3
(E)F2
(E)F1
(E)F0
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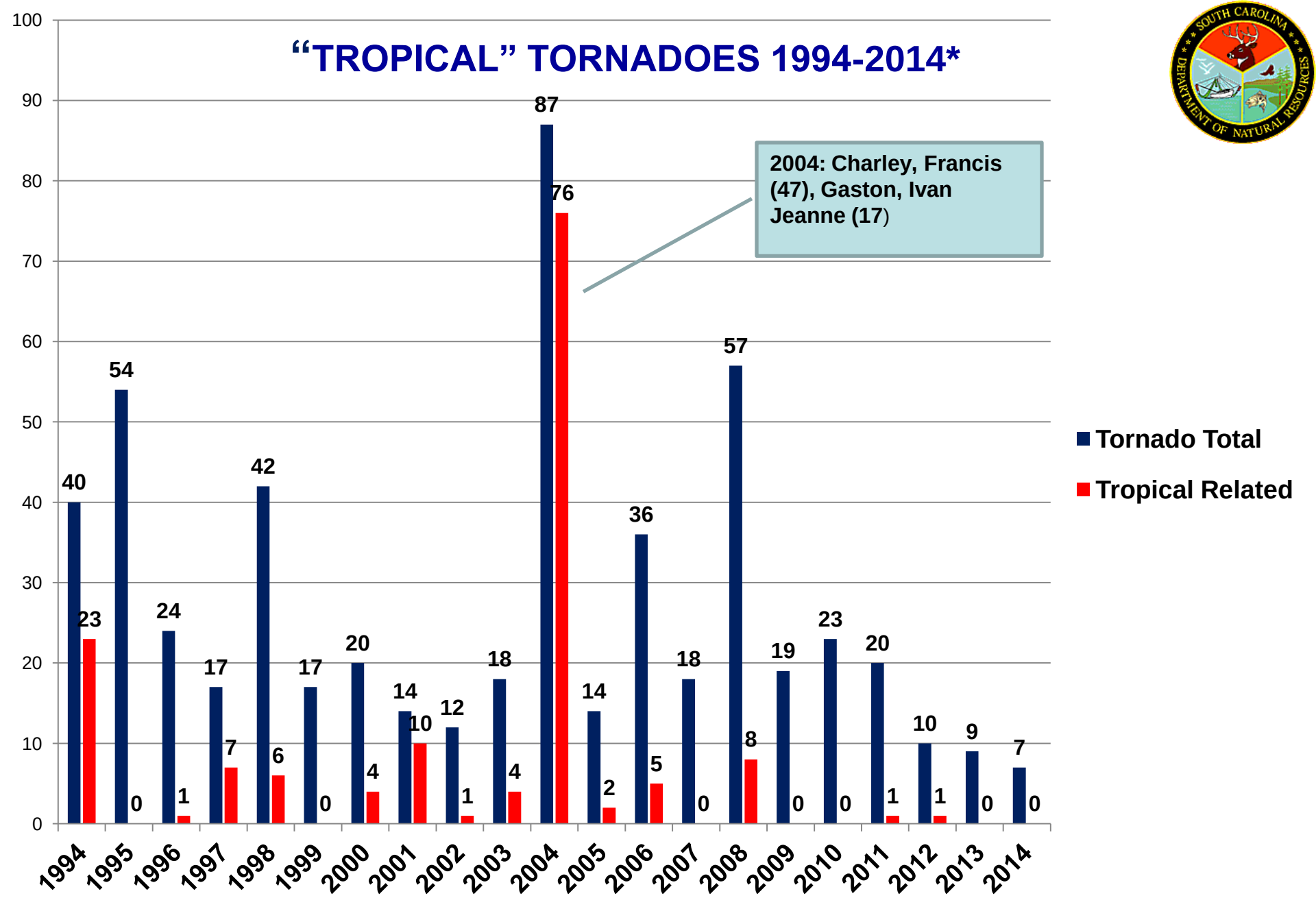
“TROPICAL” TORNADOES 1994-2014*



*Tornadoes triggered by decaying tropical storms over land.

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SOUTH CAROLINA TORNADO CLIMATE BASICS:

- **Annual climate feature, Spring preferred; any month fair game.**
- **Afternoons preferred; any hour fair game.**
- **Midlands and Piedmont preferred; any County fair game.**
- **EF0 and EF1 tornadoes: 81% (65-110 mph, EF4: 166-200 mph) .**
- **Short, narrow tracks, short lived (AVG: 3.5 miles, 110 yds.). But…**
  - **Longest: 62 miles, (400yds wide, F3, McCrmck-Edgfld-Slda, 11 NOV 1992)**
  - **Widest: 2600yds, (5 mile track, F4, Marlboro, 28 MAR 1984)**
- **"Tropical" tornadoes are a significant inland threat.**

Data source: NOAA's Storm Prediction Center (www.spc.noaa.gov/wcm)